

Principles:

Make reconnecting youth a priority.

Involve young people in finding the solutions

Invest in high need communities.

Create opportunities for work experience that are relevant to careers and have real world applications.

Create pathways to financial independence and social mobility.

Build state and local capacity to expand effective, high quality, evidence based programming.

At least double federal appropriations for existing programs.

Scale up effective federally funded programs to provide one million opportunity youth per year a real chance to reconnect to education, employment and service.



THE
VISION
ISSUE

Innovation Times

ALL THE INNOVATION THAT'S FIT TO PRINT.

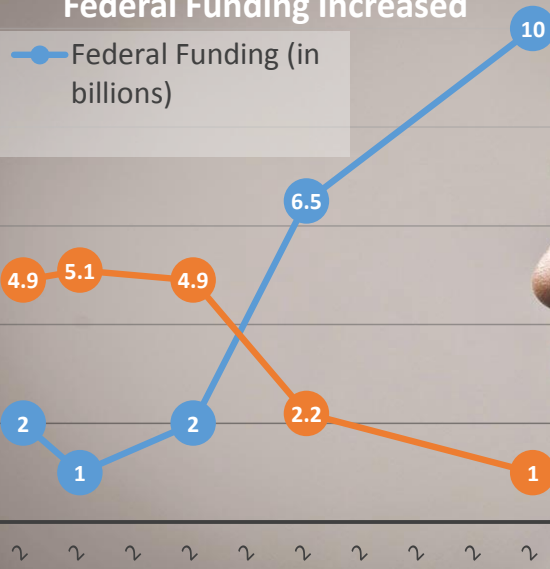
TOP STORY

SUMMER 2027

The Opportunity Youth Renaissance

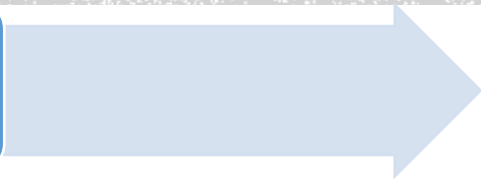
How the US Unleashed a Vital
National Resource Hiding in Plain
Sight

The Number of Opportunity
Youth in the US Decreased As
Federal Funding Increased



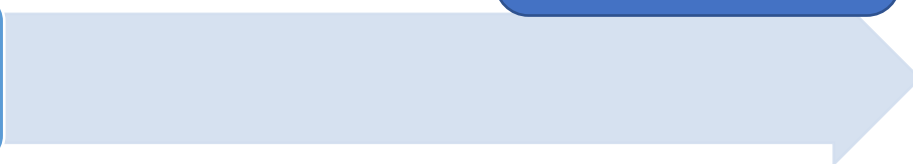
APPROPRIATIONS AGENDA

Labor/Education/CNCS
programs solely focused on OY*

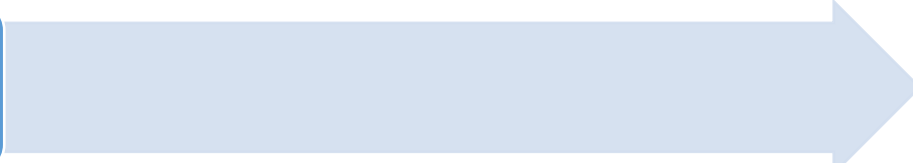


Included in the
1M count

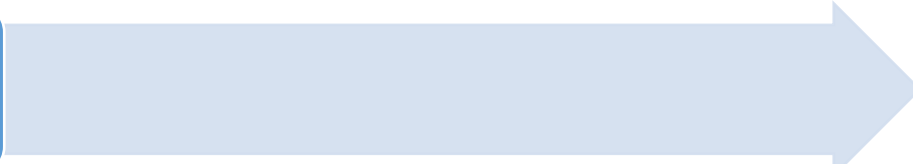
Labor/Education/CNCS
programs that we don't know
what % is focused on OY



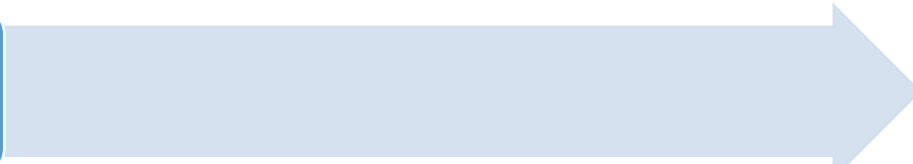
Justice Appropriations



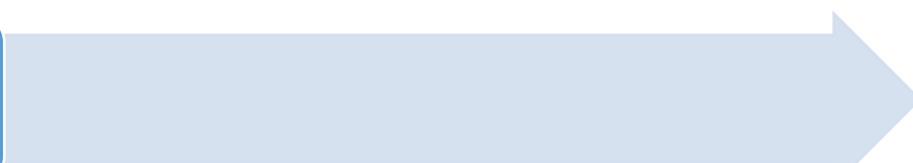
Foster Care Appropriations



Homeless Youth Appropriations



Substance Abuse/Mental Health
Appropriations



Included in list of
appropriations we want
increased

*Also DOD Youth Challenge

ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

Labor/Education/CNCS
programs solely focused on OY*

Labor/Education/CNCS
programs possibly including OY

Justice Appropriations

Foster Care Appropriations

Homeless Youth Appropriations

Substance Abuse/Mental Health
Appropriations

**We
Organize
Advocacy
Activities**

• We support and participate in advocacy activities organized by Act4JJ

• We support and participate in advocacy activities organized by TBD

• We support and participate in advocacy activities organized by the NNFY

• We support and participate in advocacy activities organized by the TBD

*Also DOD Youth ChalleNGe

WE ALSO SUPPORT

Campaigns that focus on appropriations for broader populations, such as:

- The Coalition for Human Needs
- Non-Defense Discretionary United
- Committee for Education Funding
- Coalition for Health Funding
- Protect Our Care Coalition

While this particular campaign is focused on federal appropriations, many of the same organizations also work on opportunity youth:

- Federal Authorization Legislation (such as Perkins, Higher Education Act, JJDPA)
- Regulatory and Administrative Policies
- State and Local Policies (all kinds)

All is important and we seek to align across all related advocacy activities.

WE HAVE WHAT WE NEED TO WIN

- Data on number of opportunity youth in congressional districts (Measure of America)
- Economic analysis of cost of not reconnecting (Clive Belfield)
- Funding stream analysis (Civic Enterprises)
- Bi-partisan support (Opportunity Nation)
- Corporate champions (100,000 Opportunities Initiative)
- Grasstops champions who can reach out to congressional delegations (OYIF, Opportunity Works, LEAP, MBKA, Cities United, etc.)
- Youth-led movement (Opportunity Youth United)

FY17

- Generally level-funded opportunity youth programs (and other child and youth programs)
- One big loss: the Social Innovation Fund was defunded.

FY18

- President's budget released
- Proposing devastating cuts to social programs (non-defense, discretionary)
- Hoping for a year-long CR

FY19

- Likely the most critical year, in which large consolidations/block grants/cuts will be on the table.

ACTIVITIES SO FAR

- Established Working Group and Initial Coalition Members
- Bridge to Reconnection Paper
- ROI by Congressional District Paper
- Spreadsheets of Key Congressional Districts and Possible Connections
- Hill Briefings and Hearings